FOR MYSORE STATE

(1949) Department.

SERIES.

G.O No. 937

Dated 6 10.49

[Despatch Abstract.]

re jan welfare - Observance of Harijan Day -
Reports for the months of July 49 Papers Recorded

FIRKA DEVELOPMENT (SPECIAL) DEPTT.

Harijan Welfare - Observance of 'Harijan Day' 30th July, 1949 - Reports from Collectors.

Reports from Collectors, except those of Chingleput and East Godavari districts have been received and they are in the current file. As usual the 'Harijan Day' was celebrated in all the districts on 30.7.1949, according to the programme laid down by the Director of Harijan Welfare, the main items being cosmopolitan dinner or Tea party, temple entry, procession, holding of sports and distribution of prizes, etc.

The following features reported by some of the Collectors called for special notice:-

The Collector of Kurnool has struck a discouraging note that though common meetings and tea parties are held successfully, there is no real change in the attitude of the caste-Hindus towards the Harijans in villages. He has reported that so far no attempts have been made to permit the Harijans to take water from any of the wells used by caste-Hindus. He has also stated that among Harijans themselves, the Malas and Madigas are against using a common well. It may be stated that there seems to be no cause for such despair, provided the Collector and the officers under him together with the private non-official bodies interested in the Harijan uplift, take special steps to create in the caste Hindus a spirit of tolerance to the Harijans. As regards the use of wells, it is submitted that it is for the authorities to take adequate steps to see that at least the wells in the public places are allowed to be used by the Harijans without any hindrance. No special action seems however called for.

The Collector of Visakhapatnam has reported that some of the caste-Hindus and their women obstructed the Harijans who were led to the public wells on the 'Harijan day' for drinking water and that the situation was quickly brought under control with the aid of the Police and that the Harijans actually drew water from the wells later. He has also reported that a criminal case was also filed against the persons responsible for the obstruction.

The Collector of Nellore has reported that the temple entry by Harijans at Mannarpolur (in Sullurpet) was filmed by the Government of India, Information & Broadcasting Film Division and that the exhibition of this film in all parts of the district and in other districts as well will give an impetus to the movement of removal of civil disabilities.

G.O. Ms. No. 937 dated 6.10.49.

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for Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.